



NEWS RELEASE

16-107

Date: Wednesday, June 29, 2016**District:** 8 - San Bernardino**Contact:** Terri Kasinga**Phone:** (951) 232-4268 (cell)**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

TRAFFIC & SAFETY TIPS FOR THE JULY 4TH WEEKEND

SAN BERNARDINO – The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is advising motorists that the Auto Club of America (AAA) is predicting the highest Fourth of July travel volume on record and five million more travelers compared to Memorial Day weekend. The holiday travel period is defined as Thursday, June 30 to Monday, July 4. Caltrans has a moratorium on lane closures from Friday, July 1 at 6:00 a.m. to Tuesday, July 5 at 6:00 p.m.

People will be traveling and attending parades or events all weekend, especially on Monday, July 4th. Caltrans expects lengthy delays on Interstate 15 (I-15) at various locations from Temecula to the Nevada State Line, especially in the Cajon Pass, Barstow, and at the Nevada state line. Delays are also expected on Interstate 40 (I-40) between Barstow and Needles and on Interstate 10 (I-10) between Desert Center and Beaumont, especially for westbound I-10 on Monday afternoon until late in the evening. Motorists can also expect heavier than normal delays on State Route's 91, 60, 215, and 210, beginning Thursday afternoon through Monday evening. Mountain routes such as 18, 330 and 38 will also experience heavy delays over the weekend, more so on Monday for firework shows at the lakes.

If you get caught in heavy traffic delays, try and find detour routes to get around the traffic or find a safe place to wait for delays to subside. Below are some helpful tips that will assist you in making this a safe and fun travel weekend for everyone.

- **FIRST – plan ahead and know before you go!** Monitor traffic and weather reports via social media, television, and radio. Use the Caltrans Quickmap <http://quickmap.dot.ca.gov/> to monitor traffic and CHP incidents.
- Travel on Wednesday or Tuesday or leave early in the morning if possible.
- Have a full tank of gas.
- Make sure your car is in good running condition.
- Check your tires, oil, and other fluids before you leave.
- Ease up on the gas and save your cash.
- Bring a charged cell phone (with a car charger).
- Use the restroom before you get on the road – you don't know where you may get stopped for lengthy periods of time.
- Hot weather is projected for the weekend -- be sure your air conditioner is working in your vehicle.
- Turn your air conditioner **off** if you are traveling on an uphill grade and your car starts to overheat.
- Bring water – for yourself, passengers, and pets.
- Bring snacks and medications.
- **NEVER leave anyone, including pets, in a hot vehicle.**
- Be advised that although it may be sunny, unpredicted storms have occurred with heavy periods of rain and flooding. **NEVER DRIVE ACROSS RUNNING WATER – TURN AROUND DON'T DROWN!**
- Please bring your patience. **IF YOU DRINK – DON'T DRIVE!**
- **KEEP LITTER INSIDE YOUR CAR AND DISPOSE OF IT IN A TRASH RECEPTACLE.**

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Be reminded that fire danger is extremely high. Never throw burning objects or cigarettes out of vehicle windows. Be advised that fireworks are prohibited in many locations throughout the Inland Empire, especially mountain areas, so check local listings for approved areas at <http://www.ca-fireworks.presskit247.com/content/content-article.asp?ArticleID=508>.

For traffic conditions go to the Caltrans Quick Map at <http://quickmap.dot.ca.gov/>.

Check weather at <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/com/weatherreadynation/>.

Traffic Source: <http://newsroom.aaa.com/2016/06/aaa-americans-will-take-trips-ever-independence-day-weekend/>

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